

COMPANY, THE FAIR VALUE OF THE

COMPANY FOR RATEMAKING PURPOSES, TO FIX A JUST AND REASONABLE RATE OF RETURN THEREON AND TO APPROVE RATE SCHEDULES DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SUCH

## ORIGINAL

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Commission Commission 1 AZ CORP COMMISSION 2 CARL J. KUNASEK **CHAIRMAN** JAN 1 9 2000 10 ou AM '00 .lan 19 3 JIM IRVIN **COMMISSIONER** DOCKETED BY WILLIAM A. MUNDELL 4 DOCUMENT CONTROL COMMISSIONER 5 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF U.S. DOCKET NO. T-01051Bl 99-0105 6 WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC. A COLORADO CORPORATION, FOR A HEARING TO 7 DETERMINE THE EARNINGS OF THE

## NOTIFICATION OF INTERVENTION

## BY THE COMMISSION:

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On February 26, 1999, U S WEST Communications, Inc. ("US WEST") filed a rate application.

On November 17, 1999 the Town of Gila Bend ("Gila Bend") filed a Motion for Leave to Intervene ("Motion").

On November 29, 1999, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") sent a copy of the Motion to all interested parties giving them until December 9, 1999 to file any objections.

On December 3, 1999, U S WEST filed their objections to the Motion.

Gila Bend requested designation as an intervenor in the rate application because of an interest in being included in the 623 local calling area. According to Gila Bend, it is one of only two towns that does not have local access to its own county seat.

U S WEST objected to the Motion as not being timely filed. According to U S WEST, the Commission's March 4, 1999 Procedural Order set a deadline of July 2, 1999 for Motions to Intervene. Subsequently, in the October 29, 1999 Notification of Intervention, the Commission found that a new deadline for intervention of October 8, 1999 was fair and reasonable since the original hearing date had been continued for sixty-six days. Since the Gila Bend Motion was not filed until November 17, 1999, it should be denied.

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At the time the intervention deadline was set for July 2, 1999, the hearing was set for November 4, 1999. Subsequently, the hearing date was continued for sixty-six days and the intervention deadline was similarly continued. Currently, the hearing date is being indefinitely continued pending resolution of the depreciation matter. Accordingly, we find an additional continuance is appropriate for the intervention deadline.

Based on the above, we shall grant the Motion. Further, participation by Gila Bend shall be limited to the nature and scope of the proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Application to Intervene of the Town of Gila Bend is hereby granted consistent with the discussion herein.

DATED this 19th day of January, 2000.

HIEF HEARING OFFICER

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Copies of the foregoing mailed/delivered this day of January, 2000 to:

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